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Otis K. Rice

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West Virginia Institute of Technology

Montgomery, West Virginia

November 8, 1963

Professor James Silver
Department of History
University of Mississippi
Oxford, Mississippi

Dear Professor Silver:

I am writing to inquire whether you would be able to speak on our campus on January 16, 1964. Tentative plans call for a convocation talk at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon and for an informal talk to our History Club in the evening.

We are attempting to lay some stress upon history and current affairs in our convocations series this year, as we have in the past. Your closeness to the situation in Mississippi would, we think, enable you to bring something of real worth to our campus. I heard your remarks last year in Miami and was eagerly looking forward to your address at the meeting of the Southern Historical Association in Asheville. A death of a relative, however, prevented my attending the Asheville gathering.

We can offer \$250 for your services, and can provide lodging in a very nice room for \$2.00 per night per person.

At this stage, everything I say is tentative. If our offer has any attraction for you, I shall set the machinery in motion so that we can make you a formal offer. This is a slightly embarrassing procedure, but we have to conform to a system.

I do hope that you will find it possible to accept and look forward to having you visit us.

Sincerely,

Otis K. Rice

Otis K. Rice, Chairman
Department of History